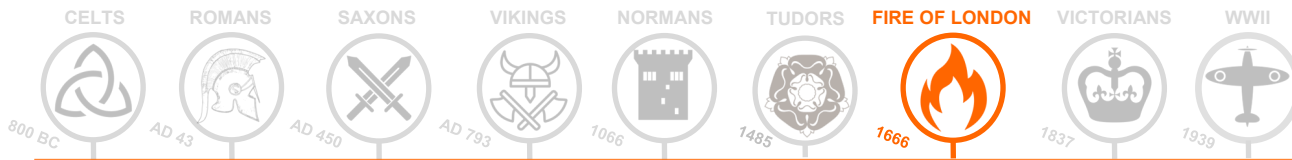


# Year 2: Great Fire of London

## BRITISH HISTORICAL CONTEXT



## WHO?



Charles II

1630-1685

Charles II was the King of England at the time of the Great Fire of London.



Samuel Pepys

1633-1703

Samuel Pepys wrote a diary about the events of the Great Fire of London

## LONDON BEFORE AND AFTER:

### BEFORE

Buildings were mostly made from wood, straw and pitch and were very close together.

The previous summer had been hot and their had been very little rain. This meant everything was dry.

People used fire to cook and for light because electricity had not been invented.

### AFTER

The king wanted to rebuild London and improve it with wide streets, beautiful parks and no overcrowding.

In 1668 new rules were put in place that said that buildings had to be made of stone and brick to stop fires happening.

London Fire Brigade was set up to stop another great fire. A monument was built to remember what happened and the people who died.

## KEY VOCABULARY



**BAKERY:** a shop where bread and cakes are made.



**BRICK:** a small rectangular block typically made of fired or sun-dried clay used in building.



**CATHEDRAL:** the principle church of a diocese with which the Bishop is officially associated



**DIARY:** a personal record kept of a life event



**FIRE BRIGADE:** a group of people trained and employed to extinguish fires



**FIREBREAK:** when buildings are destroyed to make a break so that the fire cannot spread to the next building.



**FLAMMABLE:** when something burns easily.



**MONARCH:** head of state, especially a king, queen or emperor.



**MONUMENT:** a building, structure or site that is of historical importance or interest



**PITCH:** a tar-like substance that protects the wood from water damage and is flammable.



**PRIMARY SOURCE:** immediate, first-hand accounts of a topic.



**REBUILD:** build something again after it has been damaged or destroyed.



**RIVER THAMES:** the longest river in England situated in London.



**STONE:** a hard mineral matter of which rock is made used as a building material.



**WIDE STREETS:** space in between houses so that another fire wouldn't spread the same.

## WHAT?



**2nd September 1666—1:30am**  
A fire starts in Thomas Faryner's bakery on Pudding Lane in the middle of the night and spreads quickly. The fire probably came from the oven.



**2nd September 1666—7:00am**  
The fire spreads to London Bridge. More than 300 houses have been destroyed.



**3rd September 1666—1:00am**  
Firemen try to put out the fire by using leather buckets of water and then by pulling down houses but it continues to spread.



**4th September 1666—7:00am**  
St Paul's Cathedral burns down. Houses are blown up with gunpowder to stop the spread.



**6th September 1666—8:00pm**  
The fire is final put out but many people are left homeless because their houses burnt down.

## MAP OF THE SPREAD

